acute suffering. The fact, however, remains that our hardships have been less intense, our prices less abnormal, and our supplies less unsteady and more evenly distributed than in other countries; and one who knows the sore spots in the economic configuration of the country can only contemplate with a sigh of relief that her suffering was not more acute than it has actually been. I take advantage of this opportunity to give public expression once again to the Government's high appreciation of the solid work of Mr. Cunningham in this connection, and of the remarkable foresight, earnestness, industry and resourcefulness which he has brought to bear on the discharge of his onerous duties. Government also convey their cordial thanks to the several public-spirited gentlemen who have been associated with him in his work. The civil supplies arrangements, as now decided upon, will continue till the end of Minam 1095. Mr. Cunningham is anxious to seek non-official counsel and profit by non-official co-operation; and I assure you that every representation in regard to the details of the arrangements will meet with prompt and sympathetic consideration at his hands.

FINANCE.

5. Revenue and Expenditure.—The results of the transactions of the Government during 1094 M. E. have been highly favourable from every point of view. The revenue of the State has risen from Rs. 1,65,89,541 in 1093 to Rs. 1,81,83,432 in 1094, or by Rs. 15,93,891, while the ordinary expenditure has gone down from Rs. 1,61,55,926 to Rs. 1,60,95,199 or by Rs. 60,727. The receipts of 1094 are the highest on record, and the increase is shared by all the main heads of revenue, which have, with striking uniformity, returned record figures for the year. There has been an increase of 3·49 lakhs under 'Stamps', 2·65 lakhs under 'Customs', 2·08 lakhs under 'Land Revenue', 1·66 lakhs under 'Excise', 1·54 lakhs under 'Forest', and 1·19 lakhs under 'Registration'. The net revenue under 'Excise' has risen from 61·40 lakhs to 65·65 lakhs, under 'Stamps' from 17·84 lakhs to 21·37 lakhs, under 'Forest' from 8·65 lakhs to 10·18 lakhs, and under 'Registration' from 2·99 lakhs to 4·08 lakhs. The decrease in the expenditure to the extent of Rs. 60,727 during 1094, mentioned above, is only apparent, since, if the extraordinary items of outlay incurred during 1093 are excluded for purposes of comparison, the normal service expenditure should be estimated to have risen by more than 9 lakhs during the succeeding year. There has been additional outlay under every head of expenditure, except a few such as 'Devaswoms' and 'Anchal', the increase under 'Medical and Sanitary' being 2·17 lakhs and under 'Education' 1·25 lakhs. The growing requirements of every progressive Department have been liberally met. The transactions of the year have nevertheless yielded a surplus of Rs. 20,88,233, the highest ever realised. The assets of the Government have gone up to Rs. 1,65,87,080 and the liabilities to Rs. 1,05,89,017, resulting in a closing balance of Rs. 59,98,063, which tends to approximate to the figures of pre-war years. The budget of 1095 provides for a revenue of Rs. 1,75,23,400 and an expenditure of Rs. 1,69,07,600, the anticipated increase in expenditure during the year being 8·12 lakhs. This includes provision for an increase of 2·53 lakhs under 'Education' and for special lump allotments of Rs. 40,000 each for the development of the Departments of Agriculture and Industries.

MAIN HEADS OF REVENUE.

6. Season and Rainfall.—The average rainfall during 1094 was 90·23 inches, or 6·33 inches more than in 1093. Extreme scantiness of rainfall was not experienced in any part of the year, while the heavy downpours during the South-West Monsoon flooded the rivers of Muvattupuzha and Minachil, causing distress to the inhabitants of several parts of North Travancore. The necessary measures to alleviate distress were promptly adopted by the Government. The paddy crops of the year were fairly satisfactory.

7. Land Revenue.—The current net demand rose from Rs. 36,52,376 in 1093 to Rs. 38,67,439 in 1094, the amount written off falling from Rs. 5,435 to Rs. 3,265.

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